positioned within said reading device, said assay device consisting essentially of a porous carrier strip within a hollow casing and wherein the assay result is revealed by specific binding of a labelled reagent within a detection zone of said carrier strip, the presence of the labelled reagent within said detection zone being discernable by said reading device, said reading device including receiving means for receiving said assay device, and said reading initiation means comprising a switch actuating means which is displaceable only upon correct receipt of said assay device within said receiving means, the correct receipt of said assay device causing a contact portion of said casing to contact said displaceable switch actuating means, the contact portion and the displaceable switch actuating means being cooperatively engageable via a lock-and-key engagement such that only upon correct receipt of said assay device is said switch actuating means displaced to initiate reading, said switch actuating means comprising at least one fixed projecting portion and at least one displaceable projecting portion in said receiving means, and said assay device casing comprising a recessed contact portion to accommodate said fixed projecting portion of said switch actuating means but not the displaceable projecting portion thereof, said contact portion also comprising an interface portion that contacts and displaces said displaceable portion of the switch actuating means when said fixed projecting portion is accommodated within said recessed contact portion, said contact and displacement resulting in said lock and key interaction to initiate reading said assay device, wherein said reading is enabled only by such contact and displacement action.

REMARKS

Reconsideration and allowance of the above referenced application is respectfully requested.

Claims 1 and 5-10 are currently pending in the application. Claim 1 is amended